

**NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Board Minutes**

**Slatington, PA**  
**June 4, 2007**

- PURPOSE** The regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh Board of School Directors was called to order by the President, Mr. Peter A. Ruth, at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, June 4, 2007 in the boardroom located in the Slatington Elementary School.
- ROLL CALL** Members present: Mr. Donald H. Dengler, Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer, Mr. Raymond J. Follweiler, Jr., Mrs. Sheryl A. Giles, Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr., Mrs. Donna M. Kulp, Mr. Gregory S. Williams, Mr. Peter A. Ruth (8)
- Members absent: Mrs. Lauren A. Ganser (1)
- Non-members present: Mr. Donald Allen, Jeffrey Bachman, Mrs. Lisa Blank, Mrs. Jill Chamberlain, Mr. Greg Derr, Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha, Mr. John Hrizuk, Mr. Nathan Hunsicker (Student Rep.), Dr. Linda Marcincin, Mrs. Laurie Newman-Mankos, Mrs. Karen Nicholas, Ms. Rachel Parisi (Student Rep.), Ms. Maria Pinnata, Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Sr., Atty. Charles Stopp (Solicitor), Mrs. Dawn Wadsworth, Mrs. Aileen Yadush and Mrs. Sherri A. Molitoris.
- VISITORS** Approximately eight visitors attended the meeting in addition to Terry Ahner reporter for The Times News and Sarah Fulton reporter for The Morning Call.
- APPROVE MINUTES** Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Follweiler, that the minutes of the regular school board meeting held on May 7, 2007 and the regular school board meeting held on May 14, 2007 be approved and ordered filed.
- YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Ruth (8)
- NAY: None (0)
- SPECIAL BOARD REPORTS** Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit - Mr. Bryan C. Dorshimer reported on the open house held on May 16, 2007 for the new CLIU building. The regular meeting scheduled for May was canceled do to lack of a quorum.
- Lehigh Career and Technical Institute - Mrs. Sheryl A. Giles reported on the Senior Awards Ceremony that was held at Lehigh Career and Technical Institute. The following Northern Students were recognized for winning awards in the following categories:
- Lehigh
- DECA Competition:**  
Abby Bankos - 1<sup>st</sup> in Chapter Awards Program  
Danielle Dooley - 2<sup>nd</sup> in Job Interviewing; 4<sup>th</sup> in School Store Based Enterprise  
Allen Michael Gross - Gold metal in Food Marketing  
Veronica Mummey - 6<sup>th</sup> in Marketing Management  
Kayla Trotter - 1<sup>st</sup> in Transportation Logistics; 5<sup>th</sup> in Material Handling and Logistics Management
- FBLA Competition:**  
Nicholas Kroboth - 2<sup>nd</sup> in Networking Concepts  
Amandalin Sandoval - 1<sup>st</sup> in Computer Applications
- FCCLA Competition:**  
Cassandra Greb - Gold metal in Chapter Showcase Display  
Kayla Toth - Silver metal in Culinary Art
- HOSA Competition:**  
Kira Kern - 2<sup>nd</sup> in Physical Therapy
- Skills USA Competition:**  
Laura Deurer - 1<sup>st</sup> in Action Skills  
Kira Kern - 2<sup>nd</sup> in Basic Health Care Skills  
Nicholas Kroboth - 1<sup>st</sup> in Internet Working  
Veronica Mummey - 1<sup>st</sup> in Painting and Decorating  
Richard Ottman - 1<sup>st</sup> in Power Equipment Technology

**SPECIAL  
BOARD  
REPORTS  
(cont.)**

Amandalin Sandova - 1<sup>st</sup> in Tech Computer Applications  
Donald Yesik II - 2<sup>nd</sup> in Precision Machining Technology.

She stated they also passed the Academic Center Budget for the 2007-2008 school year at a 5.8% increase over last years budget. Member district cost for the center is \$909,660.00 which equates to \$3,639.00 per pupil. She also reported on the new Welcome to Schnecksville sign that was built and constructed by students of LCTI.

Legislative Report - Mr. Gregory S. Williams reported on the bill from local Representative Karen Beyer which deals with state funding for Cyber/Charter Schools. PSBA is asking for school district's to push hard for the passage of this bill. He stated that at the next board meeting he would like the board to pass a resolution in support of this bill.

Edward  
education  
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or pre-

He reported that two PSBA officers presented testimony to the House Education Committee in regards to school funding under the 2007-2008 state budget plan proposed by Governor Rendell. They testified that the increase to basic education funding and special subsidy is a starting point but it still causes the commonwealth to fall short of its provide an adequate level of state funding for public education. They also addressed with the Accountability Block Grant (ABG) program. Governor Rendell is suggesting money for the ABG program be used only to establish, or expand, full-day kindergarten kindergarten programs. The proposal also introduces a competitive grant process that allows Head Start programs and private pre-kindergarten programs to compete with school districts for the ABG funds. Lastly, he reported on HB 1369 which would make strikes and lockouts illegal in the state of Pennsylvania.

Lehigh Carbon Community College - Mr. Mathias J. Green, Jr. stated that on the front page of the paper that was distributed there are two gentlemen who received statewide honor for the All Pennsylvania Academic Team and they are prior Northern Lehigh students.

Committee Reports and/or Meetings

Minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting held on May 16, 2007 were distributed.

Mr. Williams asked that the minutes from the Policy Committee Meeting be changed to reflect that Mrs. Ganser had attended the meeting. He stated that she had arrived a little late but she did attend.

Student Representatives to the Board Report

Mr. Nathan Hunsicker and Ms. Rachael Parisi thanked everyone who came to support the high school students at academic awards night. They also reported that the senior class trip is tomorrow and they will be going to Six Flags Great Adventure. They also hope to see everyone at graduation.

Mr. Ruth thanked Mr. Hunsicker and Ms. Parisi for serving as student representatives to the board for this year.

Solicitor's Report - Attorney Charles Stopp stated that the paper on the drug testing issue has been completed and will be forwarded to Dr. Sham shortly.

Federal and Other Programs Update - Mrs. Lynne B. Fedorcha distributed the schedule for professional development days for the end of the 2006-2007 school year. She stated that last week she, along with Mrs. Nicholas, Mrs. Wadsworth and Mrs. Newman-Mankos met with the representative from Scott Foresman and the motion to approve the core reading program at Peters will appear on next weeks agenda. She also distributed the program and song that was handed out at the end of year Head Start Collaboration Celebration at Peters Elementary School. Mrs. Fedorcha stated that she is a member of the Literacy Council through CLIU and Mrs. Rene Evans, high school English teacher, is our district representative for the Academic Literacy Task Force. The task force works with adolescent literacy and the ultimate goal is to improve literacy instruction to all students. Mrs. Denise Turoscy is the alternate to the task force. Mrs. Yadush spoke briefly on the first meeting that Mrs. Evans attended on May 30<sup>th</sup>.

**SPECIAL**  
**of BOARD**  
**REPORTS**  
**(cont.)**

Business Manager's Report - Mrs. Lisa A. Blank informed the board that one of the provisions Act I was the requirement that school districts allow for the payment of real estate taxes in installments. Last month the board adopted the resolution, as required by Act I, allowing for installment payments. Act I also allows the board to consider increasing the tax collectors compensation based on the fact that there is additional work required to collect the installment payment. The law says that if the tax collectors would like an increase to their wages they should submit a request within 15 days after the board adopts the resolution. The tax collectors submitted a letter within the 15 day period asking that the board consider an increase to their compensation based on the increased work required to collect the installments. There is a discussion item pertaining to this listed under new business on tonight's agenda. The board has 45 days to respond to the tax collectors request under Act I.

Laure Newman-Mankos applied to the Department of Education for contingency fund for Extraordinary Expenses under the Special Education Budget and we have been rewarded an additional \$23,205.62.

Mr. Ruth thanked Mrs. Newman-Mankos for applying and receiving the money.

Superintendent's Report - Dr. Nicholas P. Sham, Sr.

Recognized new school board member Donna Kulp and handed her a certificate and a packet of information and materials from PSBA.

Dr. Sham reported on Mrs. Perich's class and the end of year program they presented to parents at Peters Elementary School today. Dr. Sham had the honor of presenting graduation diplomas to all the first graders in Mrs. Perich's class. He also thanked Mrs. Newman-Mankos and Mrs. Fedorcha for the work they did again this year training all new staff members in Reading Apprenticeship.

Feasibility committee will be meeting on July 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the boardroom. June 12<sup>th</sup> is Baccalaureate in the high school auditorium at 7:00 p.m. and graduation is June 13<sup>th</sup> at Bulldog Stadium, whether permitting. Policy committee meeting will be held on June 20<sup>th</sup> in the boardroom.

Mr. Ruth reported that the board was in executive session prior to the board meeting to discuss policies and personnel issues.

**PERSONNEL**

Mr. Follweiler made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Green, that the Board of Education approve the following personnel items:

Administrative  
Transfer

Donald Allen  
From: Transition Middle School/High School Assistant Principal  
To: Full-time High School Assistant Principal  
Effective: July 1, 2007  
Salary: \$63,000.00 (no change in salary)

Jill Chamberlain  
From: Full-time High School Assistant Principal  
To: Transition Middle School/High School Assistant Principal  
Effective: July 1, 2007  
Salary: \$75,500.00 (no change in salary)

Substitute –  
Instructional

Approve the following substitute cafeteria worker for the 2006-2007 school year at the 2006-2007 substitute rate of \$7.25 per hour:

Judith VanHorn\*  
***\*Pending Verification of Clearances***

Resignation/  
Retirement  
T. Kokinda

Accept the resignation of Theresa Kokinda from her position as Middle School Mathematics Teacher, effective immediately. Mrs. Kokinda has accepted a position with the Leighton Area Middle School in order to be employed closer to her home.

**PERSONNEL****(cont.)**

- Judith Wagner Accept the resignation of Judith Wagner from her position as a High School Instructional Aide, effective May 19, 2007, due to personal reasons.
- Marsha Burnard Accept the resignation of Marsha L. Burnard from her position as a Kindergarten Teacher at Peters Elementary, effective the last day of the 2006-2007 school year, at which time she will begin her retirement from Northern Lehigh School District after 26 years of service.
- Assistant Athletic Director Approve the appointment of Douglas Reynolds as the Assistant Athletic Director for the 2007-2008 school year at a stipend of \$3,500. He will assist the Athletic Director in all Athletic Director duties and responsibilities and will be responsible for athletic fund raising activities.
- Unpaid Leave Of Absence Approve the request of Debra Siglin, Slatington Elementary teacher, to take an unpaid leave of absence on May 30, 2007. She would like to attend her niece's high school graduation in Maryland. Her request will not be considered a precedent for future requests per correspondence received from the Northern Lehigh Education Association.
- Approve the request of employee #4880, Peters Elementary teacher, to take an unpaid leave of absence beginning half day on June 6, 2007 through June 14, 2007 or until released from her doctor.
- YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Ruth (8)
- NAY: None (0)

**CONFER-  
ENCES**

Mr. Williams made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Giles, that the Board of Education approve the following conference item:

Greg Derr – PASBO: School Operations Academy – July 19 & 20, 2007 – Penn Stater Conference Center, State College, PA – Registration: \$240.00, Travel: \$81.00, Lodging: \$109.59, Meals: \$32.00 - Total Approximate Cost: \$462.59 – Funding: Director of Buildings and Grounds Budget

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Ruth (8)

NAY: None (0)

**POLICY**

Mr. Dengler made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Giles, that the Board of Education approve the following policy items:

Board Policy First Reading Approve revisions to school board policy #103 – Programs – Nondiscrimination in School and Classroom Practices, as presented after 1<sup>st</sup> reading.

Approve revisions to school board policy #433 – Professional Employees – Professional Education, as presented after 1<sup>st</sup> reading.

Non-Resident Students Approve the request of parents of a first grade student at Peters Elementary School, who are moving out of the district, to allow their student to continue in Northern Lehigh School District until the end of the 2006-2007 school year in accordance with school board policy #202.

Mr. Williams addressed the board on policy #433 and stated the committees understanding that the policy says the board only needs to approve conferences where the reimbursable expenses are more than \$100.00 not the cost of the conference. The committee added wording stating anything that requires an overnight accommodation would also require specific board action.

**POLICY**  
**(cont.)**

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp,  
Mr. Williams, Mr. Ruth (8)  
NAY: None (0)

**CURRIC-  
ULUM AND  
INSTRUC-  
TION**

Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Follweiler, that the Board of Education approve the following curriculum and instruction items:

10<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Social  
Studies  
Textbooks

Approve the purchase of tenth grade social studies textbooks by Prentice Hall. The title is "*United States History*" by Lapansky, Levy, Roberts and Taylor. These textbooks will replace "*American Journey: The Quest for Liberty Since 1865*" by Prentice Hall, 1992. Teacher resource materials, as well as an interactive version of complete text on line for students, will be provided at no charge. The total cost of these textbooks is \$5,791.15. This is part of the 2007-2008 textbook budget.

Contracts  
Title I, II, V  
And Drug-  
Free Schools  
2007-2008

Approve to authorize proper officials to execute contracts for Title I, Title II, Title V and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Acts for the 2007-2008 school year.

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp,  
Mr. Williams, Mr. Ruth (8)  
NAY: None (0)

**OLD  
BUSINESS**

Mr. Ruth asked the board if there was any board member that would be interested in serving on the Safe School Wellness Advisory Committee.

Mrs. Yadush updated the board on the number of students enrolled in dual enrollment courses for the 2007-2008 school year. She also invited board members to the annual senior/faculty picnic and softball game that will happen on June 12<sup>th</sup> at the Skeet Club.

**NEW  
BUSINESS**

Mr. Green made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Williams, that the Board of Education approve the following new business item:

Pandemic  
Flu Plan

Approve to adopt the Pandemic Flu Contingency Plan as presented.

Mr. Dorshimer asked if there was any cost involved in being prepared for this.

Dr. Sham stated that there are costs involved for masks, water and medical supplies.

Mrs. Kulp asked if she could get a list of medical supplies needed and she would see if she could get donations for the district.

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp,  
Mr. Williams, Mr. Ruth (8)  
NAY: None (0)

\$1.50  
installment  
talking with other school  
average only about 5% of the

Mrs. Blank stated that tax collectors get paid annually \$400.00 in addition to being paid for the first 2,000 collections and \$1.25 for each bill collected over 2,000. The payment only applies to real estate taxes not per capita taxes. After district's who currently accept installment payments, on population pays their taxes in installment payments.

Tax  
Collectors  
Collection  
Rates

Mr. Green made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Giles, that the Board of Education approve to pay the tax collectors \$1.50 for the first 2,000 tax bills and installments collected and \$1.25 for each collection there after.

**NEW**  
**BUSINESS**  
**(cont.)**

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp,  
 Mr. Williams, Mr. Ruth (8)  
 NAY: None (0)

**FINANCIAL**

Mrs. Giles made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Williams, that the Board of Education approve the following financial items:

Cash Mngt  
 Portfolio

Approve the Arthurs Lestrage Cash Management Portfolio for the months of April 2007.

Bonds  
 Secretary  
 And  
 Treasurer

Approve to renew the following expiring bonds for the 2007-2008 fiscal year through HRH Palley Simon Associates:

A \$50,000 Board Secretary Bond for the term of July 1, 2007 to July 1, 2008 at an annual premium of \$175.00.

A \$50,000 Board Treasurer Bond for the period July 1, 2007 to July 1, 2008 at an annual premium cost of \$269.00.

Insurance  
 Coverage  
 2007-2008

Award insurance coverage for the 2007-2008 school year to the following companies:

Commercial Package and Automobile (Vehicle Liability, General Liability Property Insurance and Boiler and Machinery) Graphic Arts (UTICA) National Insurance Company - \$56,878.00. The premium is an increase of \$2,066.00 over last year's rate.

Commercial Umbrella Liability Insurance – Crum & Foster Insurance Company - \$15,300.00. The renewal is with the same company as last year and the premium is an increase of \$1,734.00 over last year's rate.

School Leaders Error and Omissions Liability - \$13,927.00 AIG – National Union. The renewal is with the same company as last year and the premium is the same as 2006-2007.

Workers' Compensation Coverage – PSBA Insurance Trust/Old Republic – estimated premium of \$68,888.00, approximately a \$7,612.00 decrease. This amount is an estimated total, final cost based on actual payroll figures.

Financial  
 Depository  
 Institutions

Authorize the following financial institutions to act as approved depositories for school district funds and or temporary investments. The Northern Lehigh School Board further authorizes the following financial institutions to transfer funds on deposit to any other bank for the credit of the Northern Lehigh School District. The Board further authorizes the Business Manager and/or Superintendent to enter into agreements, supplements or amendments to agreements to implement the foregoing operations for the 2007-2008 school year.

M & T Bank  
 Harleysville National Bank  
 Prudential-Bache Government Securities Trust  
 Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust (PLGIT)

Commerce Bank of Pennsylvania  
 Wachovia National Bank

Insurance  
 Broker  
 2007-2008

Appoint Hilb, Rogal and Hamilton Company (HRH) Palley Simon Associates as the district insurance broker for Property, Casualty, Liability and Worker's Compensation insurance for the 2007-2008 school year.

Payment  
 Of Bills  
 July 2007

Approve to grant permission to the business office to pay construction, insurance, and utility bills that are scheduled for payment during the month of July as required by contract. There is no scheduled board meeting in July.

Delinquent  
 Per Capita

Approve the appointment of Statewide Tax Recovery as the delinquent per capita tax collector for the 2007-2008 school year.

## Tax Collector

**FINANCIAL****(cont.)**

LCTI                    Approve to authorize the expenditures of the Lehigh Career & Technical Institute for the Academic Center Budget in the amount of \$956,980.00 for the period of July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008.

Maintenance        Approve a maintenance agreement for the 2007-2008 school year with Allentown  
Agreement            Sewing Machine Outlet. The agreement covers sewing machines located as follows:  
Sewing  
Machines              Middle School – 14 machines at \$30.00 per machine plus parts = \$420.00

Student                Appoint Mid-Penn Insurance Associates as the 2007-2008 Student Accident and  
Accident                Athletic Insurance Carriers. The renewal rate is \$6,045.00, an increase of \$115.00  
Insurance                over last year, to include all interscholastic sports, band and cheerleading. Voluntary  
Carrier                    school coverage is \$22.00 for the school time rate and \$88.00 for the 24-hour rate,  
that same as 2006-2007.

Mr. Green offered the suggest that in the future Insurance Bills be brought and discussed at the Finance Committee Meeting prior to appearing on the agenda. Some of the items on this agenda were discussed at the recent Finance Committee Meeting but other items where not.

Mr. Dorshimer asked if the insurance on the boiler covers only repair of the boiler or does it cover liability for damage the boiler could cause, if something would happen.

Mrs. Blank stated that it is a separate rider for the boiler.

Mr. Dorshimer asked if the boiler rider only covers the cost of the boiler, is it worth carrying this rider when we end up paying for a new boiler anyway as we did with the boiler in the field house. But if something happens to the boiler, it explodes and causes damage to a residential property near by and this rider covers the liability then this policy would be worth the money.

Mrs. Blank stated that she is not sure according to the language that she has read if this rider would cover liability. She will contact the insurance carrier, find out the actual cost of the boiler rider and what it actually covers, and discuss this at the Finance Committee Meeting on Wednesday evening.

Table                    Mr. Dorshimer made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Follweiler, that the Board  
of  
Commercial            Education table the Commercial Package and Automobile (Vehicle Liability, General  
Package                Liability Property Insurance and Boiler and Machinery) Graphic Arts (UTICA) National  
Insurance                Insurance Company - \$56,878.00. The premium is an increase of \$2,066.00 over last  
year's rate.

YEA:    Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp,  
          Mr. Williams, Mr. Ruth (8)

NAY:    None (0)

Vote on                YEA:    Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp,  
Original                Mr. Williams, Mr. Ruth (8)  
Motion                NAY:    None (0)

**LEGAL****CORR-  
ESPON-  
DENCE**

Mr. Ruth received mail from Highmark on a workshop on Bullying held at Hershey PA in October. Also received mail from the Pennsylvania Economic League newsletter for May.

Mr. Ruth again thanked the high school and administrators for the senior award night.

**CORR-  
ESPON-  
DENCE**  
(cont.)

Mrs. Kulp stated that she attend the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade field day and it was well planned and executed.

**PUBLIC  
COMMENT**

Mr. Bob Treskot – Walnutport Borough said that in the time he has been tax collector there have been three business managers at Northern Lehigh. He stated that the board did the school district justice by hiring Mrs. Blank.

**INFOR-  
MATION**

Minutes of the Lehigh Career & Technical Institute Joint Operating Committee meeting held on April 25, 2007 and the LCTI Director's Report for May 2007 were distributed.

Minutes of the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit 21 Board of Directors meeting held on April 16, 2007 were distributed.

Mr. Ruth called for a 10 minute recess at 8:45 p.m.  
Mr. Ruth reconvened the meeting at 9:00 to discuss budget.

**BUDGET  
DISCUSSION**

Mrs. Blank distributed to all board members the Status of New Initiative and Proposed Reduction Items, as well as an Analysis of Expenses that can be moved to 2006-2007. Mrs. Blank briefly explained these documents to the Board.

Mrs. Blank stated that the current budget still has the retiring staff salaries in it that could possibly be removed. This equates to approximately \$227,000.00. She suggested that this money be left in the budget because if this money is cut, it would leave absolutely no padding in the budget for any unanticipated expenses. She stated that this week she received notice of revised estimates on the 2007-2008 Special Education Intermediate Unit cost and it has decreased approximately \$104,000.00 from the original estimate. She also feels uncomfortable reducing that amount in the budget because special education costs are so volatile. Mrs. Blank also estimated actual revenues vs. expenses for the current school year, 2006-2007, and she is estimating an increase to fund balance in the amount of one million plus.

Mrs. Kulp distributed paperwork to all board members. The spreadsheet listed actual expenditures in 2005-2006, budget amounts for 2006-2007 and 2007-2008, and the increase in the budget from 2006-2007 to 2007-2008. The worksheet also showed her recommendations for possible reductions to the 2007-2008 budget. She asked for explanation on increases in some of the categories listed. Mrs. Kulp further explained her worksheets. Discussion ensued between board members and Mrs. Blank concerning increased amounts in the 2007-2008 school district budget.

After questioning items on the list Mrs. Blank stated that there was \$3,000.00 that could be cut from the Contracted Services in Legal/Negotiation Services and that \$15,000.00 could be cut from Other Objects Staff Services which was for the Highmark Wellness Incentives and it was decided that this would not be something the school district would be participating in. Mrs. Blank felt comfortable cutting these items from the budget.

Mrs. Kulp asked if there was a better way to distribute the messenger. She stated that a few years prior, the messenger was posted on our district website. She sees this as a way to save money in the budget.

Dr. Sham stated that placing the messenger on the district website was tried a few years earlier and it was not viewed by many district residents. He stated that good communication between the school district and the public is very critical and that mailing the messenger is the most efficient way. There are certain notifications that are required by every school district, such as special education notifications, and this is the best way to get the word out to the public.

Mr. Green thanked Mrs. Kulp for the effort and time she put in to produce the comparison spreadsheet that she prepared for the board meeting. He cautioned the board in comparing an object code within a category. Often amounts budgeted in a particular category or

object code  
of **BUDGET**  
**DISCUSSION**  
(cont.)

in one year aren't necessarily budgeted in the same place the following year because instructions from PDE on where items are to be budgeted. Many times, in that case, there could be a huge decrease in a category or object code for that year but a huge increase in another area, thus just offsetting one another and the budget not increasing at all. He just wanted to make them aware that they need to be very careful when making comparisons this way.

Mrs. Kulp stated that she was looking at a zero mill increase and the areas listed in red on her spreadsheet as deductions to the budget she would like considered to help the board get to a zero mill. This is just for the board to discuss, not a motion to cut all these amounts.

that

Mr. Williams stated that he felt Mrs. Blank explained the increases on the list very well. He is very hesitant to reduce any amount in the categories listed except for the \$18,000.00 that Mrs. Blank felt comfortable cutting. He feels that the board should be addressing the \$33,000.00 still needs to be cut from the budget in order to get down to the millage rate that was passed for the preliminary budget.

Mr. Dorshimer questioned the increase in the business office salary account. He stated that if the one bookkeeping position was cut from the budget how is there such an increase in this years budget.

manager's,

Mrs. Blank said that she is unsure why there is such an increase in the salary budget for the business office but assured him that the only salaries listed there are the business  
2 ½ bookkeeper's and 1 duplicating aide.

Dr. Sham cautioned going to a zero mill increase. The Feasibility Study is in the process of completing their study of Slatington Elementary School and will be coming to the board soon with a recommendation for renovations. If the board is considering renovations to this building and the cost incurred is more than the original amount set aside, the district will need to be able to pay for the increase or go out for referendum.

Increase  
Substitute  
\$10.00 Teacher  
Wellness Rate

Greg Williams made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Dorshimer, that the Board of Education approve to increase the substitute teacher daily rate by \$5.00, instead of the which is currently in the budget, removing from the budget \$15,000.00 from the Initiative and \$3,000.00 from the Contracted Legal Services.

Mr. Dorshimer asked Dr. Sham if the \$5.00 increase is enough to secure substitute teachers for the school district.

Dr. Sham said that the \$5.00 would be helpful.

Mr. Green stated that he feels very uncomfortable telling administration where to make the cuts to the budget. He would like to give administration one last time to suggest to the board where to make cuts to the budget.

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp,  
Mr. Williams, Mr. Ruth (8)

NAY: None (0)

Mr. Ruth asked Mrs. Blank to explain the athletic fund and the money transfer to the athletic fund.

Mrs. Blank told Mr. Ruth what items are paid for from the athletic fund, general fund and money received from the refreshment stands.

Mr. Ruth asked if the PSSA Tutoring Program could be self funded.

Mrs. Fedorcha said that it could be looked into but she felt we would not get everyone who actually is in need of the PSSA tutoring program to take advantage of it.

Mr. Dorshimer asked about the \$3,000.00 Curriculum Upgrade in each building that is listed as other. He asked what the other is.

**BUDGET  
DISCUSSION**  
(cont.)

Mrs. Fedorcha said that this money is used for purchasing extra textbooks, if needed.

Mrs. Blank stated that there are textbooks in the 2007-2008 budget that can be moved and purchased from the 2006-2007 budget if they can be received by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

what  
out  
Mr. Dorshimer asked administration if by Monday they could contact people and find out textbooks can be received by June 30<sup>th</sup>, as well as, finding out if they can deliver the bleachers, snow blower and lawn mower by June 30<sup>th</sup> so we can purchase all these items of this years budget.

Mrs. Giles asked if the part-time technology person stayed as part-time could we then cut the \$15,753.00 out of the budget.

Mrs. Blank stated yes. She said that most of that money is for benefits but feels that if this person is not offered a full-time job would no longer be working here.

to  
Hrizuk  
Dr. Sham stated that last year a full-time technology person was in the budget and was cut part-time to see if there really was a need for this person. He stated that if you ask Mr. or Mr. Bachman you will find that he is as busy as they are and, for the first time, they are able to at least keep their head above water.

Mr. Hrizuk stated that Mr. Haas has been doing most of the day to day repair of machines. Staff members do not need to wait as long as they did in past years to have a machine repaired.

Mrs. Giles said that the technology department is managing with this person being part-time.

Mr. Hrizuk stated that Mr. Haas has completed his LCCC courses and Mr. Hrizuk feels that if Mr. Haas does not get a full-time job here, he will look for work elsewhere.

and  
Dr. Sham explained to the board about the parent program of PowerSchool that will be up running sometime next year as well as the new Data Warehousing Software. He stated that these new programs will create more work for the technology department.

Mrs. Kulp asked what the current fund balance is for the district.

Mrs. Blank stated that total fund balance, designated and undesignated, is 3.7 million, which does not include the possible 1 million from the 2006-2007 school year.

Mr. Green said that he feels with the list that Mrs. Kulp has given administration to review and possible cuts that Mrs. Blank talked about earlier, the board can get down to a zero mill increase without touching another program.

Mr. Williams said he would like the board to direct administration to come back with a recommended budget of a zero mill increase. This was the board's direction to administration.

**ADJOURN-  
MENT**

Mr. Follweiler made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Williams, that the regular meeting of the Northern Lehigh School District Board of School Directors is adjourned at 10:33 p.m.

YEA: Mr. Dengler, Mr. Dorshimer, Mr. Follweiler, Mrs. Giles, Mr. Green, Mrs. Kulp,  
Mr. Williams, Mr. Ruth (8)

NAY: None (0)

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan C. Dorshimer  
Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ President  
Peter A. Ruth